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## PATENT APPLICATION

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

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In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

- (1) JP 10-014111
- (2) U.S. 5,886,890
- (3) U.S. 6,093,885

Document (1) is discussed commencing at page 1, line 26 of the specification and may be deemed relevant for the reasons given there. Document (2) is believed to be an English-language counterpart of document (1). An English-language abstract for document (1) is also enclosed.

This application has not yet received either a final action or a Notice of Allowance. Accordingly, this Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and is accompanied by the \$180.00 fee specified at 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). The Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,

California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700 All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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